(d) As reported by CIL, the details of land acquired, compensation and employment given to the land oustees during the last 3 years are as under:

Land acquired (hectares)	Number of landlords given compensation for land acquired	Employment given
5015	5313	1730

Earth Station of VSNL

3143. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether ICO Global Communication has issued a press advertisement for the sale of its Earth Station in VSNL complex in Chhattarpur, New Delhi and if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether the company has taken permission for the transaction which involves sale of sensitive equipments from concerned Government agencies and if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the action proposed to be taken against the company for unauthorized sale including, if necessary, sealing of earth station at VSNL premises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. ICO Global Communication issued an advertisement in the Economic Times dated 18-07-2005 for the sale of satellite ground communications equipment located in Chhattarpur, New Delhi.

(b) and (c) M/s ICO Global Communication has not obtained any permission or wireless licence for the equipment. However, an experimental licence No. Exp 843R was issued to VSNL for the establishment of Satellite Earth Station at Chhattarpur for Satellite Access Node (SAN) along with In Orbit Testing (IOT) and Telemetry and Telecommand (TT&C) of ICO satellite system. The licence was valid up to 31-12-1999. Based on the

advertisement, VSNL and M/s ICO have been informed that wireless equipment can be sold only after the approval by this Ministry, to users having appropriate permission/wireless licence issued by this Ministry.

New technology for Broad Band Services

3144. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the BSNL's mobile base has crossed the one crore mark;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the BSNL does not operate in most of the lucrative markets;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the BSNL is planning to introduce new technologies for broad band services; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes Sir. Number of GSM (Global System for Mobile Communications) based mobile subscribers of BSNL as on 31.07.2005 are 1,07,66,698.

(b) and (c) No, Sir. BSNL is licensed to provide GSM-based mobile Service in 21 out of total 23 Service areas in the country i.e. whole of India except Delhi and Mumbai Metro City Service Areas where MTNL (Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited) is, *inter-alia*, licensed to provide mobile services. BSNL is providing mobile services in all its 21 licensed service areas having coverage in more than 4200 cities/towns including tourist, religious places and all other places of commercial importance. BSNL is also providing coverage along major National/State Highways and Railways Routes.

(d) Yes, Sir.